



*Hebrews 6:10*

*For God is not unjust. He will not forget how hard you have worked for him and how you have shown your love to him by caring for other believers, as you still do.*

**TEMPLE & SONS FUNERAL DIRECTORS, INC.**  
2801 N. Kelly Avenue  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73111  
"We care"

# The Life and Times of *"Bettye Joann Bridgett"*

Bettye Joann Bridgett Comes Home



## **Services**

Monday, September 12, 2022 - 10:30am

**Tabitha Baptist Church (TBC)**

1219 N.E. Grand Blvd.  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73117

**Reverend J.L. Mitchell - Pastor - Officiating**

# A Living Sacrifice

## **Romans 10:1-13 (New Living Translation)**

And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

Because of the privilege and authority God has given me, I give each of you this warning: Don't think you are better than you really are. Be honest in your evaluation of yourselves, measuring yourselves by the faith God has given us. Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other.

In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So, if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly.

Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other. Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically. Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying. When God's people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality.

eternal gifts to the world. Their children include Angelia Harris who married Robert hailing from Lexington Park, Tom Bridgett II who married Ranita hailing from Midwest City, Oklahoma and Iyshaa Robertson who married Paul hailing from Atlanta, Georgia.

Even though Bettye Joann Bridgett started a new chapter in her life, she did not neglect her desire to serve others and be creative. Not only did she work as a unit clerk at Baptist Hospital and University Hospital, she also taught a college level course helping others become unit clerks. Some additional opportunities to serve others included Community Resource Liaison for One Church, One Child and Activities Director for Metropolitan Better Living Center. She offered her interior design expertise and wedding coordinating services to help others.

## *Act 3*

Bettye Bridgette, affectionately known by many as Bettye B, was no stranger to the youth of the City of Oklahoma. Following God's calling to serve youth, Mrs. Bridgett was the founder of Bronzette Teens. This organization provided young girls an opportunity to build their confidence and relationship with others through pageants, which were held all over Oklahoma.

She was the head of the youth department at Friendship Baptist Church. It was there she started the well know Friendship Baptist Church Drill Team. Under her leadership, this amazing group of young people would not only form lifelong relationships, but would also win first place in the National Baptist Drill Team competition in Florida. In addition, she helped young children learn to speak publicly by grooming them to compete in oratorical contests held throughout the city.



Betty definitely had a heart for children. During a time when many of the youth were being killed at the hands of gang violence, she wrote and directed a play called Save the Children. The play encouraged its viewers to take a close look at the damage gang violence was having on young lives in the community. Her desire, as always, was to lead youth to Jesus. While serving as the youth director of Tabitha Baptist Church, Bettye wrote and direct Rennis, sinner spelled backwards. Bettye wanted everyone to know that trouble could find anyone, even good kids.

Throughout her life, Bettye touched the lives of many. However, her greatest love was her husband Tom Bridgett, who proceeded her in death. She cherished her grandchildren; Thomas Bridgett III, Michael Bridgett, Robert Harris Jr., Mykel Harris, Jordan Robertson, Paul Robertson Jr., one great-granddaughter Brooklyn Bridgett and two great-grandsons Michael Bridgett II, and Robert Marcus Harris III.

Bettye leaves to celebrate her legacy her 3 children, 6 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren, 2 sisters Mary Lee Oliver (husband Lee John, deceased), Frances Lewis (husband Rickey), Franklin Cotton (wife Edie), and a host of nieces and nephews.

Bettye Joann Bridgett...a wife, mother, friend, leader, confidant, creator, influencer but most of all a Child of the Most High God! Bettye, we love you, we appreciate you and we celebrate your life. We applaud you!

**Take a bow!**

# Order of Service

Processional

Selection.....Chanda Graham.

Old Test. - Psalm 121.....Rev. Bernie Kidd  
Associate Minister, Tabitha Baptist Church

New Test. - Thessalonians 4:13-14...Rev. Marcus Snell  
Associate Minister, Tabitha Baptist Church

Prayer.....Evangelist Bettye Branch Winters  
Evangelist, St. John Baptist Church

Resolution/Acknowledgments.....TBC Church Clerk

Remarks (Please limit remarks to 2 minutes)

Drillers for Christ Tribute.....Tezlyn Figaro  
Friendship Baptist Church

Selection.....Joseph Smith

Eulogy.....Pastor J.L. Mitchell

Parting View

Recessional

# Lights. Camera. Action!

## Act 1

Bettye Joann Cotton made her debut appearance on June 2, 1939. Mr. Joe Turner and Willie Bell Cotton, both proceeding her in death, welcomed their baby girl in Muskogee, Oklahoma. Many others would learn to love her and call her 'family.'

At a young age, Bettye Joann began to grow in Christ and cultivate her creativity and love of the arts. She played the piano at St. Mark Baptist Church, under the leadership of Reverend Theo Hickerson. She also served as the Sunday School Treasurer. 'Sister good member,' as Reverend Hickerson would say, was well on her way to a life of serving God and serving others.

During her teenage years, Bettye's love for performing became stronger. She was the premiere drum majorette for Manual Training High School where she would wow the crowd with her amazing baton twirling routines. Bettye graduated from high school in 1958 and went on to attend Wichita State University. She would pursue a Degree in Fashion Design which explains why she was always dressed to the nines! Soon, Tom Bridgett would ask for her hand in marriage and her life would take a different direction.

## Act 2

While America was writing its own story, Tom Bridgett, a soldier in the United States Air Force, would propose to Bettye Joann Cotton starting a love story of their own. Mr. Bridgett (from Summit Oklahoma), was on leave from a tour in Japan. He asked for Bettye's hand in marriage, and she said yes! God blessed them with 3

# Interment

Fort Gibson National Cemetery  
Fort Gibson, Oklahoma

## Supporting Cast

### Pallbearers

Michael Bubb Jr.  
Adam Edwards  
Michael Johnson

Martriell Myers  
Donitisha Myers  
Antjuan Samuels

Charles Wyatt Jr.

Honorary Pallbearers  
Tabitha Deacons

### Flower Bearers

Tezlyn Figaro  
Chanda Graham  
Valarie Howard

Nicole Glenn  
Christine Wyatt  
Kristy York

Evangelist Bettye Branch Winters

Honorary Flower Bearers  
Tabitha Baptist Church Deaconess

### Credits/Acknowledgments

On behalf of the family, we thank all of you from the depths of our hearts. Words cannot express our appreciation for your support, calls and prayers. Thank you for helping us celebrate Bettye's life and for making this homegoing one she would have wanted. We ask for continued prayers for peace for the future.